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(b) whether in any case the period for which the building was at first temporarily let has expired and, if so, when ; and

(c) the steps taken to give the building for use by the Government or quasi-public departments that may be in need of it?

A.—(a) The Conservator of Forests permitted the Pastor of the Telugu Village Mission, Adoni, to occupy the building temporarily for hospital purposes.

(b) No. A month's notice to vacate the buildings has been given.

(c) The question of its future occupation is under the consideration of the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Enforcement of Forest Panchayat Rules in South Kanara.

*2417 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : With reference to the answer given to the question sent by Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal at the last meeting as to the Forest Panchayat rules enforced in South Kanara, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the concession granted to the cultivators of South Kanara to take green and dry leaves from reserved forests free of payment is subject to the restrictions and conditions mentioned in those rules as to the lopping of unclassified trees of green leaves and removal of green and dry leaves from reserved forests ;

(b) whether the concession in question is confined to the cultivators of lands contiguous to the reserved forests or may be extended to cultivators of neighbouring lands who have no reserved or other forests close by for manure purposes ; and

(c) what orders Government or the Forest authorities have issued for allowing cultivators to take green and dry leaves free of payment from reserved forests and subject to what restrictions and conditions, if any ?

A.—(a) & (c) The following concessions are allowed as an experiment to ryots by the Chief Conservator :—

North Mangalore.

(1) Free removal of green leaves of unclassified species and dry leaves of all species from all reserves ;

(2) Clearing of undergrowth of all unclassified species not above 6 feet in height in all reserved (except those near the Coast) to a distance of half a mile from the limits of their private holdings and to a distance of 200 yards in the case of reserves near the Coast ; and

(3) Free removal of dead fuel from all reserves without any restriction.

South Mangalore.

(1) Clearing of undergrowth, i.e., of unclassified species in all reserves (with the exception of three reserves worked for fuel).

(2) In the case of the three excepted reserves, clearing of undergrowth is allowed only to a distance of 200 yards from the limits of private holdings.

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(3) Clearing of undergrowth in all areas sown with *Hopea*.
(4) Free removal of green leaves of unclassified species and dry leaves of all species.

The above concessions are allowed subject to the condition that if they are abused they will be withdrawn.

North Mangalore.

(*b*) The concessions referred to are allowed to cultivators of neighbouring lands also.

South Mangalore.

Cultivators of neighbouring lands also may avail themselves of the concessions subject to the condition that they use the materials for their own lands in the village in which they were cut.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Sir, my question was whether those rules do not restrict the right of the ryots to remove dry and green leaves for the purposes of manure. Their right is subject to so many conditions, i.e., that they should protect the forests from fire, etc."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" The concessions allowed are given here in the answer."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Sir, I am sorry I have not made myself clear. There are concessions, I admit; but where the Forest Panchayat rules are not enforced those concessions are freely enjoyed and where they are enforced there are a number of restrictions. The forest panchayats lay down many restrictions which are not warranted."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I may say, Sir, that there are no regular forest panchayats in South Kanara."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Certain Forest Panchayat rules were published in reply to the question put by Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal."

Mr. V. Pandrang Row :—" Those rules do not relate to Forest Panchayats proper."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Proper or not, those rules were published *in extenso* in answer to Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal's question. These forest panchayats are liable to perform so many duties and therefore they lay certain restrictions on the removal of green leaves which amounts to taking away with one hand what is given with the other."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" The point is that the Forest Panchayat rules are not applicable to all forests in South Kanara."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" The answer given to Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal was in connexion with the forest panchayats established by the Forest department in South Kanara. I refer to those rules and if I am given a minute or two I shall put my finger on the exact page of the proceedings where these rules are published."

The hon. the President :—" Yes."

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—(After a pause) "I am not able to trace the reference; I think I have made myself clear. With reference to the question put by my hon. Friend Mr. Raghuchandra Ballal, a series of rules was published and it is with reference to those rules I ask whether they do not restrict the privilege given to take green leaves for manure."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Regular forest panchayats do not exist in South Kanara. If my hon. Friend wants any more information, I shall be glad to give him if he comes to my room."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"They were published in the proceedings. I refer to those rules and not to other rules."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think the controversy might be settled out of the Council."

Government Press.

Disbandment of compositors in the Government Press.

*2418 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the services of a number of compositors in Settlement section of Government Press were dispensed with;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of them were on permanent staff; and

(c) whether it is a fact that many of them have put in long service?

A.—(a) Yes. As a consequence of the transfer of the printing of settlement registers from the Government Press to private presses the temporary establishment engaged on this work in the Government Press has been disbanded.

(b) No.

(c) The men whose services have been dispensed with have put in service ranging from eleven years downwards.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (c), may I ask whether it is not a hardship to dispense with the services of people who have put in eleven years' service?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It is a matter of opinion."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I suppose it is a matter of opinion as you have said."

Local Boards.

Alleged disabilities of Mr. A. Muthusaveri of the Kurumballur Union Board.

*2419 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Adi-Dravida Union Board member by name Mr. A. Muthusaveri of the Kurumballur Union Board, Perambalur taluk, Trichinopoly district, has been asked to stand outside the Union Board Office during the time of the meeting instead of allowing him to sit along with other members for fear of pollution by the present President or Chairman of the Union Board;